

Senate Staff Levels in Member, Committee, Leadership, and Other Offices, 1977-2014

Lara E. Chausow
Research Assistant

R. Eric Petersen
Specialist in American National Government

Amber Hope Wilhelm
Visual Information Specialist

March 19, 2015

Congressional Research Service

7-5700

www.crs.gov

R43946

Summary

Senate staff from 1977 to 1986, excluding state-based staff, increased from 3,397 to 4,180, or 23.05%. From 1987 and 2014, all Senate staff grew from 4,916 to 5,758, or 23.89%. Since 2010, however, staff working for the Senate has decreased 6.65%. The changes in both time periods were characterized in part by increases in the number of staff working in chamber leadership offices, and larger increases in the staffing of chamber officers and officials. Additionally, staff working for Members have shifted from committees to the personal offices of Members. Some of these changes may be indicative of the growth of the Senate as an institution, or the value the chamber places on its various activities.

This report is one of several CRS products focusing on congressional staff. Others include CRS Report RL34545, *Congressional Staff: Duties and Functions of Selected Positions*, by R. Eric Petersen; CRS Report R43947, *House of Representatives Staff Levels in Member, Committee, Leadership, and Other Offices, 1977-2014*, by Lara E. Chausow, R. Eric Petersen, and Amber Hope Wilhelm; CRS Report R43774, *Staff Pay Levels for Selected Positions in Senators' Offices, FY2009-FY2013*, by R. Eric Petersen, Lara E. Chausow, and Amber Hope Wilhelm; and CRS Report R43775, *Staff Pay Levels for Selected Positions in House Member Offices, 2009-2013*, by R. Eric Petersen, Lara E. Chausow, and Amber Hope Wilhelm.

Contents

Senate Staffing.....	1
Senate Staff Data Collection.....	1
Senate Staff Data	3
Staff in Senators' Offices.....	4
Committees	4
Leadership Offices	4
Officers and Officials	4
Discussion.....	5
Data Tables	7

Figures

Figure 1. Senate Staff Levels by Category, 1977-2014	3
Figure 2. Percentage of Senate Staff in Each Category, 1987-2014	5

Tables

Table 1. Senate Staff Levels by Category, 1977-2014	7
Table 2. Staff Working in Senators' Offices, 1977-2014	8
Table 3. Senate Committee Staff by Committee, 2005-2014.....	9
Table 4. Senate Committee Staff by Committee, 1995-2004.....	10
Table 5. Senate Committee Staff by Committee, 1985-1994.....	11
Table 6. Senate Committee Staff by Committee, 1977-1984.....	12
Table 7. Senate Staff of Active Joint Committees, 1977-2014	13

Contacts

Author Contact Information.....	14
---------------------------------	----

The manner in which staff are deployed within an organization may reflect the missions and priorities of that organization.

In Congress, employing authorities hire staff to carry out duties in Member-office, committee, leadership, and other settings. The extent to which staff in those settings change may lend insight into the Senate's work over time. Some of the insights that might be taken from staff levels include

- an understanding of the division of congressional work between Senators working individually through their personal offices, or collectively, through committee activities;
- the relationship between committee leaders and chamber leaders, which could have implications for the development and consideration of legislation, the use of congressional oversight, or deployment of staff; and
- the extent to which specialized chamber administrative operations have grown over time.

This report provides staffing levels in Senators',¹ committee, leadership, and other offices since 1977. No Senate publication appears to officially and authoritatively track the actual number of staff working in the chambers by office or entity. Data presented here are based on staff listed by chamber entity (offices of Senators, committees, leaders, officers, officials, and other entities) in Senate telephone directories. **Figure 1** displays overall staffing levels in the Senate.

Table 1 in the "Data Tables" section below provides data for all staff listed in chamber directories in the Senate through 2014. Joint committee staff data from the Senate for panels that met in the 113th Congress (2013-2014) are provided in **Table 7**.

Senate Staffing

Senate Staff Data Collection

This report provides data based on a count of staff listed in the Senate telephone directories published since 1977.² Like most sources of data, telephone directory listings have potential benefits and potential drawbacks. Telephone directories were chosen for a number of reasons, including the following:

- telephone directories published by the Senate are an official source of information about the institution that are widely available;

¹ Throughout this report, the terms "Member office," "personal office," and "Senator's office" refer to the office held by a Senator as a consequence of election or appointment to the Senate. They do not refer to the number of facilities in which that work is carried out. Discussions of how many staff are based in Washington, DC, and state facilities distinguish only between locations in Washington, DC, or in the state. It does not provide an office-by-office accounting of staff working in multiple state facilities.

² Senate directories listed some Washington, DC-based staff assigned to specific entities (e.g., Member, committee, and other offices) in 1958. The House first published a directory with detailed staff listings by entity in 1977.

- presumably, the number of directory listings closely approximates the number of staff working for the Senate;³
- while arguably not their intended purpose, the directories provide a consistent breakdown of Senate staff by internal organization at a particular moment in time; and
- the directories afford the opportunity to compare staff levels at similar moments across a period of decades.⁴

At the same time, however, data presented below should be interpreted with care for a number of reasons, including the following:

- There is no way to determine whether all staff working for the Senate are listed in the chambers' telephone directories.⁵ If some staff are not listed, relying on telephone directories is likely to lead to an undercount of staff.
- In particular, staff working in Senators' state offices were not listed until 1987. This likely led to an undercount of staff, and makes comparisons pre-1987 and post-1987 difficult.
- It is not possible to determine if staff who are listed were actually employed by the Senate at the time the directories were published. If the directories list individuals who are no longer employed by the Senate, then relying on them is likely to lead to an overcount of staff.
- The extent to which the criterion for inclusion in the directories for the Senate has changed over time cannot be fully determined. Some editions of the directory do not always list staff in various entities the same way.⁶ This may raise questions regarding the reliability of telephone directory data as a means for identifying congressional staff levels within the Senate over time.
- Some Senate staff may have more than one telephone number, or be listed in the directory under more than one entity.⁷ As a consequence, they might be counted more than once. This could lead to a more accurate count of staff in specific entities within the Senate, but multiple listings may also lead to an overcount of staff working in the chamber.

³ The actual moment is the deadline that was set for the final collection of listings prior to publication. The exact date for each year is not known, but publication dates for the House and Senate directories were generally in the spring of each year.

⁴ Other congressional documents list staff by organizational unit, most notably the quarterly *Statement of Disbursements* issued by the House, and the semiannual *Report of the Secretary of the Senate*, issued by the Senate. At the same time, because they capture all paid staff activity for a three-month (House *Statements*) or six-month (Senate *Reports*) period, those documents do not provide as clear a picture of staffing at one point in time as the telephone directories.

⁵ In the Senate telephone directories, for example, state-based staff in Senators' offices were not listed until 1987. This omission is likely to lead to an undercount of Senate staff prior to 1987.

⁶ In some instances, a listing for a Senate entity would not list staff. In other instances, there were significant changes in the number of staff from year-to-year, and it could not be determined whether that was a consequence of changing organizational practices, or differences in the manner in which staff were included in the directory.

⁷ For example, some congressional staff may work on a part-time basis for more than one Member, or for a Member and a committee. In limited instances (some commissions and joint committees), it is possible that some staff are listed in both House and Senate directories.

- Chamber directories may reflect different organizational arrangements over time for some entities. This could lead to counting staff doing similar work in both years in different categories, or in different offices.

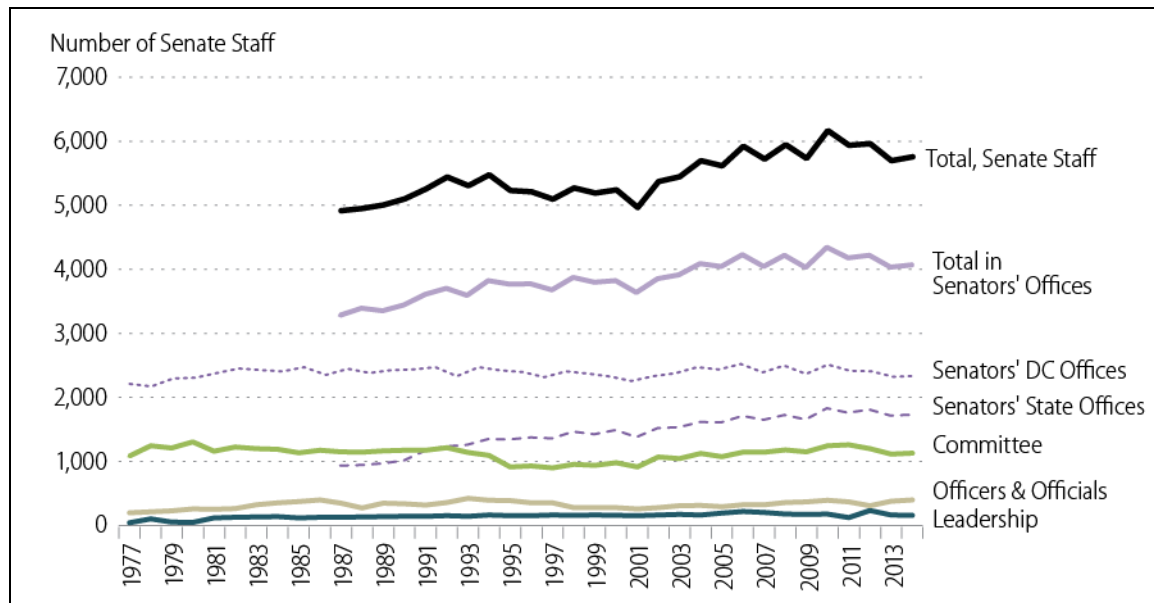
Senate Staff Data

It appears that the Senate telephone directories started listing Senate staff working in Senators' state offices in 1987. Given the lack of consistent staff data from Senators' offices prior to 1987, comparisons between data from those offices from 1977-1986 and 1987-2014, as well as any analysis of total staffing levels in the Senate before 1987, would be incomplete. Staff levels from committees, leadership, and officers and officials, however can be evaluated across the entire 1977-2014 time period. Additionally, analysis of total staffing levels, as well as staff distribution, since 1987 is discussed below.

In the Senate, the number of staff has grown steadily, from 4,916 in 1987 to 5,758 in 2014, or 17.13%. Each year, the number of Senate staff has grown by an average of 31 individuals,⁸ or 0.63%. From 1977 to 1986, excluding congressional staff from state offices, the number of staff in the Senate has grown steadily from 3,397 in 1977 to 4,180 in 1986, or 23.05%. **Figure 1** displays staff levels in six categories (Senators' DC offices, Senators' state offices, total staff in Senators' offices, committees, leadership, and officers and officials) since 1977. **Figure 2** provides the distributions among categories of offices from 1987 to 2014.

Table 1 in the "Data Tables" section, below, provides detailed staff levels in those categories.

Figure 1. Senate Staff Levels by Category, 1977-2014



Source: Senate telephone directories, CRS calculations.

Notes: All categories are based on a full count of directory listings.

⁸ Rounded to reflect a whole number.

Staff in Senators' Offices

Staff in Senators' offices grew from 2,068 in 1977 to 2,474 in 1986, or 19.63%. Due to the addition of staff in Senators' state offices, comparisons of total staff before 1986 to after are not possible. But staff in Senators' Washington, DC, offices continued to grow. In 2014, there were 2,340 staff in Senators' DC offices, an increase of 13.15% from 1977. Staff in Senators' offices, including state offices, have grown from 3,286 in 1987 to 4,071 in 2014, or 23.89%. Senators' office staffs have grown as a proportion of overall Senate staff over time. In 1987, Member office staff comprised 66.84% of Senate staff. The proportion grew to 67.51% in 1990, and 72.96% in 2000, before dropping slightly to 70.70% in 2014.

Most of the growth in Senators' staffs since 1987 appears to have been among state-based staff, which nearly doubled in size from 935 in 1987 to 1,731 in 2014. More staff work in Washington, DC, offices than in state offices, but the percentage of Senators' staff based in states has grown steadily since 1987, while the number of staff in Senators' Washington, DC, offices has remained flat. In 2014, approximately 57.48% of staff working in Senators' offices did so in Washington, DC, down from a high of 72.18% in 1988. **Table 2** in the "Data Tables" section below provides the number of staff working in Senators' offices in Washington, DC, and state offices.

Committees

Senate committee staff levels have shown the smallest change among Senate staff categories, increasing 4.34% since 1977. Change among Senate committee staff may be characterized in three stages: an increase during 1977-1980 (20.57%); a period of decline in 1980-1999 (-27.93%); and a period of growth from 1999 to 2014 (20.06%).

Between 1987 and 2014, committee staff comprised a decreasing proportion of Senate staff, falling from a peak of 23.39% of Senate staff in 1987 to a low of 17.49% of staff in 1995. The proportion of Senate committee staff grew to 19.64% in 2014, still below its 1987 peak.

In the "Data Tables" section below, three tables provide staff levels in various Senate committees. **Table 3** provides data for 2005-2014; data for 1995-2004 are available in **Table 4**, **Table 5** provides data for 1985-1994, and data for 1977-1984 are in **Table 6**. Totals for each year, which include Senate joint committee staff found in **Table 7**, are provided in **Table 1**.

Leadership Offices

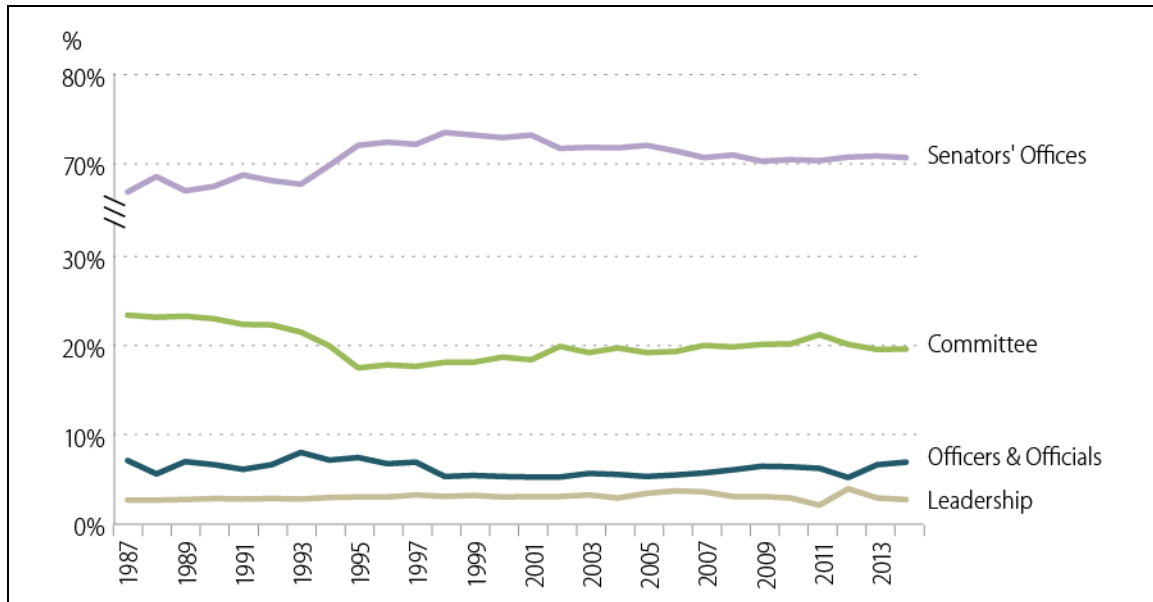
The number of staff in Senate leadership offices grew from 44 in 1977 to 158 in 2014. The majority of the growth in leadership staff occurred between 1977 and 1981, from 44 to 119, or 170.45%. The number of leadership staff peaked in 2012 at 234. As a proportion of Senate staff, leadership employees were 2.69% in 1987 and 2.74% in 2014.

Officers and Officials

Staff working in the offices of Senate officers and officials has grown 98.01% since 1977. Staff levels have grown from 201 in 1977 to 398 in 2014, but were characterized by sharp decreases in 1988, from 1998-2001, and in 2012.

Despite the growth, Senate officers and officials' staff decreased as a proportion of Senate staff, falling from 7.08% in 1987 to a low of 5.21% in 2012. In 2014, the proportion of officers and officials' staff was 6.91%.

Figure 2. Percentage of Senate Staff in Each Category, 1987-2014



Source: Senate telephone directories, CRS calculations.

Notes: All categories are based on a full count of directory listings.

Discussion

Since 1987, the number of staff working for the Senate has grown. There have been increases in the number of staff working in Senate leadership offices, and larger increases in the staffing of officers and officials. Staff working for Senators have shifted from committee settings to leadership settings or the personal offices. Some of these changes may be indicative of the growth of the Senate as an institution, or the value the chamber places on its various activities.

One example that may be an indication of institutional development arguably is found in the growth of the number of staff working in leadership and officers and officials' offices. A potential explanation for these changes may be found in what some might characterize as an ongoing professionalization and institutionalization of congressional management and administration. Some note that as organizations such as governing institutions develop, they identify needs for expertise and develop specialized practices and processes.⁹ In Congress, some of those areas of specialization arguably include supporting the legislative process through the drafting of measures, oversight and support of floor activities, and the management of legislation in a bicameral, partisan environment. Another potential explanation related to a more institutionalized, professionalized Congress could be the demands for professional management and support. This

⁹ See, for example, Nelson W. Polsby, "The Institutionalization of the U.S. House of Representatives," *The American Political Science Review*, vol. 62, no. 1 (March 1968), pp. 144-168.

could arise as a result of congressional use of communications technologies, and the deployment of systematic, professionalized human resources processes, business operations, and financial management. Consequently, increased specialized support of congressional legislative and administrative activities may explain increases among staff working for chamber leaders, and officers and officials.

In another example, the distribution of staff working directly for Senators has shifted from committee settings to personal office settings. Staff in Member offices has grown while staff in Senate committees has decreased, both in real numbers and in percentage of total staff. This may represent a shift from collective congressional activities typically carried out in committees (including legislative, oversight, and investigative work) to individualized activities typically carried out in Senators' personal offices (including direct representational activities, constituent service and education, and political activity).¹⁰

¹⁰See CRS Report RL33686, *Roles and Duties of a Member of Congress: Brief Overview*, by R. Eric Petersen; CRS Report RL34035, *Grants Work in a Congressional Office*, by Merete F. Gerli, and CRS Report RL33209, *Casework in a Congressional Office: Background, Rules, Laws, and Resources*, by R. Eric Petersen.

Data Tables

Table I. Senate Staff Levels by Category, 1977-2014

Year	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986
Senators' Offices	2,068	2,215	2,173	2,296	2,308	2,385	2,454	2,430	2,409	2,474
Committee	1,084	1,244	1,209	1,307	1,161	1,228	1,200	1,191	1,137	1,177
Leadership	44	103	55	49	119	132	136	138	121	131
Officers and Officials	201	213	230	261	253	264	327	354	376	398
Totals	3,397	3,775	3,667	3,913	3,841	4,009	4,117	4,113	4,043	4,180
Year	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996
Senators' Offices	3,286	3,393	3,354	3,445	3,612	3,707	3,593	3,826	3,771	3,773
Committee	1,150	1,147	1,167	1,174	1,176	1,216	1,141	1,094	915	929
Leadership	132	133	138	144	146	156	147	163	157	156
Officers and Officials	348	276	350	340	321	362	425	393	388	353
Totals	4,916	4,949	5,009	5,103	5,255	5,441	5,306	5,476	5,231	5,211
Year	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Senators' Offices	3,678	3,876	3,801	3,823	3,639	3,855	3,915	4,091	4,047	4,232
Committee	899	955	942	979	915	1,071	1,047	1,126	1,078	1,146
Leadership	166	162	166	159	154	166	176	167	193	220
Officers and Officials	353	280	282	279	260	282	309	315	297	325
Totals	5,096	5,273	5,191	5,240	4,968	5,374	5,447	5,699	5,615	5,923
Year	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014		
Senators' Offices	4,044	4,221	4,029	4,346	4,180	4,219	4,037	4,071		
Committee	1,147	1,182	1,153	1,246	1,262	1,200	1,116	1,131		
Leadership	204	182	175	180	126	234	164	158		
Officers and Officials	326	361	372	396	372	311	379	398		
Totals	5,721	5,946	5,732	6,168	5,940	5,964	5,696	5,758		

Source: Senate telephone directories, CRS calculations.

Notes: All categories are based on a full count of directory listings. Senate telephone directories published in 1981, 1996, 2009, and 2013 provided listings for 99 Senators' offices. Before 1987, the Senate directories did not list congressional staff in Senators' state offices. Therefore, the staffing levels for "Senators' Offices", as well as the "Totals" from 1977 to 1986 do not reflect the same data as the years 1987 to 2014.

Table 2. Staff Working in Senators' Offices, 1977-2014

Year	DC-Based Staff	State-Based Staff	Total Member Staff	DC %	State %
1977	2,068				
1978	2,215				
1979	2,173				
1980	2,296				
1981	2,308				
1982	2,385				
1983	2,454				
1984	2,430				
1985	2,409				
1986	2,474				
1987	2,351	935	3,286	71.55%	28.45%
1988	2,449	944	3,393	72.18%	27.82%
1989	2,381	973	3,354	70.99%	29.01%
1990	2,430	1,015	3,445	70.54%	29.46%
1991	2,439	1,173	3,612	67.52%	32.48%
1992	2,473	1,234	3,707	66.71%	33.29%
1993	2,332	1,261	3,593	64.90%	35.10%
1994	2,474	1,352	3,826	64.66%	35.34%
1995	2,422	1,349	3,771	64.23%	35.77%
1996	2,397	1,376	3,773	63.53%	36.47%
1997	2,318	1,360	3,678	63.02%	36.98%
1998	2,407	1,469	3,876	62.10%	37.90%
1999	2,375	1,426	3,801	62.48%	37.52%
2000	2,329	1,494	3,823	60.92%	39.08%
2001	2,258	1,381	3,639	62.05%	37.95%
2002	2,334	1,521	3,855	60.54%	39.46%
2003	2,378	1,537	3,915	60.74%	39.26%
2004	2,474	1,617	4,091	60.47%	39.53%
2005	2,436	1,611	4,047	60.19%	39.81%
2006	2,521	1,711	4,232	59.57%	40.43%
2007	2,394	1,650	4,044	59.20%	40.80%
2008	2,496	1,725	4,221	59.13%	40.87%
2009	2,370	1,659	4,029	58.82%	41.18%
2010	2,513	1,833	4,346	57.82%	42.18%
2011	2,417	1,763	4,180	57.82%	42.18%
2012	2,409	1,810	4,219	57.10%	42.90%
2013	2,321	1,716	4,037	57.49%	42.51%
2014	2,340	1,731	4,071	57.48%	42.52%

Source: Senate telephone directories, CRS calculations.

Notes: The Senate telephone directory did not provide listings for state-based staff prior to 1987. Senate telephone directories published in 1981, 1996, 2009, and 2013 provided listings for 99 Senators' offices.

Table 3. Senate Committee Staff by Committee, 2005-2014

Committee	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry	22	29	30	35	32	43	37	39	33	30
Appropriations	120	118	124	121	116	114	119	113	115	125
Armed Services	46	48	51	53	49	50	49	51	45	48
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs	47	46	41	46	48	60	51	51	47	54
Budget	47	49	50	49	45	54	54	50	62	59
Commerce, Science, and Transportation	64	68	69	69	69	65	69	71	62	62
Energy and Natural Resources	46	43	42	44	47	52	54	51	54	47
Environment and Public Works	51	50	41	40	45	44	45	41	43	39
Finance	53	63	82	83	84	84	87	74	80	78
Foreign Relations	57	53	52	46	47	66	63	62	50	51
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions	95	92	77	90	89	91	85	83	77	77
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs	71	109	89	100	112	127	123	123	93	122
Judiciary	127	137	143	121	106	120	168	125	108	109
Rules and Administration	19	18	22	22	20	23	23	21	21	21
Small Business and Entrepreneurship	24	28	25	32	31	29	29	29	26	18
Veterans Affairs	22	23	24	25	26	27	22	21	22	20
Select Ethics	10	10	11	11	15	15	14	12	13	14
Indian Affairs	16	11	16	20	20	21	17	24	14	17
Select Intelligence	28	42	37	43	39	42	45	45	43	38
Select Aging	12	15	23	23	13	20	16	15	16	23

Source: Senate telephone directories.

Notes: Committees are listed by names used in the 113th Congress, or most recent year in which the committee existed. “-” indicates that no staff were listed for that year. In some instances this was because the committee did not exist. In other instances, a directory listing for a panel was identified, but did not list any staff.

Table 4. Senate Committee Staff by Committee, 1995-2004

Committee	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry	31	31	26	27	23	27	22	32	27	33
Appropriations	71	61	63	61	87	89	102	90	101	118
Armed Services	43	43	45	45	43	47	44	51	47	48
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs	40	42	41	41	44	42	38	60	41	46
Budget	46	39	44	45	44	48	46	52	50	49
Commerce, Science, and Transportation	59	61	54	58	51	56	48	59	72	69
Energy and Natural Resources	42	44	40	38	37	40	38	43	42	42
Environment and Public Works	37	37	34	36	36	43	33	49	53	56
Finance	47	53	45	52	52	46	52	56	60	62
Foreign Relations	47	51	48	51	49	54	55	54	49	56
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions	81	79	76	85	98	86	76	72	74	90
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs	61	63	78	76	65	85	74	92	82	86
Judiciary	86	93	85	93	84	98	82	112	115	129
Rules and Administration	18	18	21	19	15	16	16	18	16	16
Small Business and Entrepreneurship	19	20	19	17	18	20	22	29	21	22
Veterans Affairs	18	17	21	38	19	16	18	19	20	17
Select Ethics	11	9	8	11	10	11	11	11	9	9
Indian Affairs	14	16	18	15	16	20	18	21	19	18
Select Intelligence	24	30	27	34	33	29	31	32	30	34
Select Aging	16	20	18	20	18	17	10	25	20	19
Select Year 2000 Technology Problem	-	-	-	-	15	-	-	-	-	-

Source: Senate telephone directories.

Notes: Committees are listed by names used in the 113th Congress, or most recent year in which the committee existed. “-” indicates that no staff were listed for that year. In some instances this was because the committee did not exist. In other instances, a directory listing for a panel was identified, but did not list any staff.

Table 5. Senate Committee Staff by Committee, 1985-1994

Committee	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry	33	32	30	35	38	45	40	36	36	35
Appropriations	80	82	78	78	84	80	79	81	78	72
Armed Services	42	42	46	49	49	49	50	48	47	49
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs	29	31	34	31	44	49	50	51	49	48
Budget	68	63	61	61	54	58	58	55	56	52
Commerce, Science, and Transportation	80	78	76	75	72	70	70	72	73	67
Energy and Natural Resources	48	48	44	46	48	50	50	51	49	48
Environment and Public Works	49	50	46	47	48	50	47	47	37	39
Finance	54	55	54	54	54	54	58	57	49	49
Foreign Relations	60	61	54	57	57	51	69	67	66	58
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions	101	105	95	107	104	102	106	102	93	108
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs	94	99	88	92	97	92	93	96	96	86
Judiciary	121	126	101	100	98	111	105	119	106	106
Rules and Administration	29	28	29	27	27	28	27	28	27	25
Small Business and Entrepreneurship	22	21	22	20	21	22	21	21	19	22
Veterans Affairs	21	25	25	26	25	26	24	26	21	21
Select Ethics	8	8	9	7	9	11	11	10	11	12
Indian Affairs	19	23	23	41	26	23	22	28	20	20
Select Intelligence	32	47	38	40	41	40	40	41	32	36
Select Aging	25	27	24	26	30	32	33	32	26	23
Select POW/MIA Affairs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15	-	-
Select Impeachment Trials			-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Select Investigations			-	-	20	-	-	-	-	-
Select Iran-Contra			53	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Source: Senate telephone directories.

Notes: Committees are listed by names used in the 113th Congress, or most recent year in which the committee existed. “-” indicates that no staff were listed for that year. In some instances this was because the committee did not exist. In other instances, a directory listing for a panel was identified, but did not list any staff.

Table 6. Senate Committee Staff by Committee, 1977-1984

Committee	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry	28	37	30	35	33	34	35	32
Appropriations	69	67	74	89	63	76	81	81
Armed Services	28	29	27	27	36	34	37	39
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs	39	49	43	46	38	39	33	29
Budget	47	79	67	77	63	70	73	74
Commerce, Science, and Transportation	89	91	83	92	77	88	78	78
Energy and Natural Resources	40	51	52	55	49	52	49	51
Environment and Public Works	30	33	38	38	52	51	54	51
Finance	28	34	36	40	45	50	45	53
Foreign Relations	63	57	55	68	62	62	61	62
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions	93	122	118	121	118	123	123	112
Homeland Security Governmental Affairs	108	153	140	156	113	121	120	117
Judiciary	119	144	139	153	120	135	116	119
Rules and Administration	27	30	30	31	30	32	29	28
Small Business and Entrepreneurship	22	21	23	23	22	23	24	21
Veterans Affairs	18	19	20	23	20	22	22	20
Select Ethics	2	9	15	12	17	13	12	10
Indian Affairs	0	25	26	15	13	14	19	20
Select Intelligence	40	46	43	46	41	41	41	36
Select Aging	19	19	19	21	28	28	25	34
Select Nutrition and Human Needs	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Select Senate Committee Systems	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Select Transition Staff for Former Postal Workers	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Source: Senate telephone directories.

Notes: Committees are listed by names used in the 113th Congress, or most recent year in which the committee existed. “-” indicates that no staff were listed for that year. In some instances this was because the committee did not exist. In other instances, a directory listing for a panel was identified, but did not list any staff.

Table 7. Senate Staff of Active Joint Committees, 1977-2014

Joint Committee			1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984
Economic			46	51	53	58	46	43	44	44
Library of Congress			-	-	2	2	2	2	3	3
Printing			15	15	16	16	15	16	16	17
Taxation			-	63	60	63	58	59	60	60
Joint Committee	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994
Economic	40	39	35	45	44	43	41	44	45	29
Library of Congress	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Printing	17	16	17	17	14	16	14	14	17	16
Taxation	62	68	66	64	59	70	66	73	73	71
Joint Committee	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Economic	35	32	23	25	23	31	21	34	35	36
Library of Congress	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
Printing	7	8	9	8	-	-	1	2	2	4
Taxation	60	61	56	60	62	58	57	58	60	65
Joint Committee	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Economic	31	31	35	35	34	34	29	37	30	17
Library of Congress	2	2	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Printing	4	4	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Taxation	64	57	55	66	66	65	63	62	62	62

Source: Senate telephone directories.

Notes: Excludes staff listed at various times since 1977 for the Joint committees on Inaugural Ceremonies, Atomic Energy, Defense Production, Internal Revenue Service, and Organization of Congress. Staff data for those panels are available from the authors upon request. "-" indicates that no staff were listed in the relevant chamber for that year. In some instances, a directory listing for a panel was identified, but did not list any staff.

Author Contact Information

Lara E. Chausow
Research Assistant
lchausow@crs.loc.gov, 7-2384

R. Eric Petersen
Specialist in American National Government
epetersen@crs.loc.gov, 7-0643

Amber Hope Wilhelm
Visual Information Specialist
awilhelm@crs.loc.gov, 7-2392